

REMARKS

This response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated May 21, 2007. Claims 1-32 are pending. Claims 1 and 25 are amended by this response. No new matter is added by these amendments. A Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees which are due in connection with this response.

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing Claims 17-24. Further, Applicants note that Claims 31 and 32 were not rejected by the Office Action. Therefore, Applicants assume Claims 31 and 32 are also allowed.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-12, 14-16 and 25-30 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,042,478 ("Ng"). The Office Action also rejected Claims 13 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ng. Applicant respectfully disagree.

Ng discloses a hand-held video game system having a microprocessor controller with address and data buses for providing memory accesses during memory cycles to a plurality of cartridge slots for electrically connecting cartridges containing memory related to games. Specifically, the Ng discloses an electronic game having two game cartridge slots. The Office Action states:

"...Ng discloses a hand held electronic device, comprising: a main body including a connector adapted to and mechanically connect said main body to a separable electronic game (fig. 4, 87), first and second ports sized to receive first and second game cartridges of the electronic game (col. 3, line 61 to col. 4, line 6), respectively, each of said first and second game cartridges (see fig. 2, 81 82), and a processor adapted to electrically connect the electronic game to the first and second game cartridges through said first and second ports (see fig. 5, 100)."

It appears that the Office Action is relying upon a game cartridge 91, or more specifically, the connector 87 of the game cartridge 91 to teach a connector of a main body that is connectable to a separable electronic game. However, while Ng describes the game cartridge 91 as being separably connectable to the electronic game, Ng does not describe or disclose that game cartridge 91 includes ports to receive first and second other game cartridges or a processor.

In response, the Office Action states:

“...Ng discloses a connector for transferring and receiving information over a bi-directional communication link in which a communication cartridge allows communication over the Internet and allows for interactive play of a video game. Furthermore, Ng also discloses a connector for transferring and receiving information over a bi-directional communication link whereby a user is able to play a video game on said system (see claim 8). That at least indicates that either a processor or other game cartridge can be connected to said port and allowing other user or remote user to play an electronic game from using said cartridge.”

Thus, it now seems that the Office Action seems to interpret the game unit 50 of Ng as the main body, to which two game cartridges such as cartridge 91 can be connected. Further, a communication link can bi-directionally connect the game unit 50 to another game unit, which the Office Action seems to interpret as a separable electronic game. However, even under such an interpretation, Ng still does not disclose or suggest that the main body connects to a connector of the separable electronic game and that the connector of the separable electronic game is electrically and mechanically connectable to the first or second game cartridges. Instead, Ng discloses communication with a remote game device being through a modem via the Internet. It is respectfully submitted that no portion of game unit 50 has a connector similar to the connectors on the game cartridges which would allow it to mate with a connector that can also receive game cartridges.


For at least the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Ng does not disclose or suggest a main body including a connector adapted to electrically and mechanically connect the main body to a separable electronic game, first and second ports sized to receive first and second game cartridges of the electronic game, respectively, and a processor.

For at least the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 and its dependent claims are patentably distinguished over Ng and are in condition for allowance. For similar reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 25 and its dependent claims are patentably distinguished over Ng and are in condition for allowance.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for allowance, and such allowance is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions related to this Response, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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